

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-5. Canceled.
6. (Currently Amended) A device for producing an extruded plastic pipe, comprising:
an adjustable pipe head configured to extrude a melt column having a thickness and an outer surface defining an outside diameter of the melt column;
a vacuum ehamber bell positioned in the device adjacent to the adjustable pipe head and providing a vacuum condition, the vacuum ehamber bell comprising measuring tools configured to measure the outside diameter of the melt column, the vacuum condition being automatically varied to alter the outside diameter of the melt column based on a predetermined desired diameter and measurements from the measuring tools;
a calibrating station positioned in the device adjacent to the vacuum ehamber bell and being automatically controlled to calibrate the outer diameter of the melt column to the predetermined desired diameter;
a vacuum calibrating bath positioned in the device adjacent to the calibrating station, the vacuum calibrating bath being configured to bath bathe the calibrated melt column and being automatically adjustable based on the predetermined desired diameter;
an adjustable a vacuum seal configured to engage the outer surface of the melt column to maintain the vacuum condition in the vacuum calibrating bath, and the vacuum seal being automatically adjustable based on the predetermined desired diameter;
wherein the vacuum ehamber bell in conjunction with the adjustable pipe head control the melt column thickness.
7. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the measuring instruments operate with sensing tools resting on the outer surface of the melt column.

8. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the measuring instruments determine the outside diameter of the melt column without physically touching the melt column.

9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the measuring instruments determine the outside diameter using sound or light sensors.

10-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A device for producing an extruded plastic pipe, comprising:
an adjustable pipe head configured to extrude a melt column having a thickness and an outer surface defining an outer diameter;
a vacuum chamber providing a variable vacuum condition and including measuring tools configured to measure the outer diameter of the melt column, the vacuum condition being varied based on a predetermined desired outer diameter setting and the measured outer diameter of the melt column;
a calibrating station configured to ~~fit the outer surface of the melt column~~ to calibrate the outer diameter of the melt column;
a vacuum calibrating bath configured to ~~fit the outer surface of the melt column and to bathe~~ bathe the calibrated melt column to cool and harden the calibrated melt column; and
an adjustable vacuum seal configured to ~~fit the outer surface of the melt column~~ to maintain the vacuum condition;
whereby the calibrating station, the vacuum calibrating bath, and the adjustable vacuum seal are automatically controlled based on the predetermined desired outer diameter setting of the melt column.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the vacuum calibrating bath includes support rollers configured to support the melt column, the support rollers being automatically adjustable based on the predetermined desired outer diameter.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14, wherein the vacuum calibrating bath includes support rollers configured to fit the outer diameter of the melt column.

17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14, wherein the vacuum chamber in conjunction with the adjustable pipe head controls the melt column thickness.

18. (new) A device for producing an extruded melt column, comprising:
an adjustable pipe head configured to extrude a melt column having a thickness and an outer surface defining an outside diameter of the melt column;
a vacuum bell positioned in the device adjacent to the adjustable pipe head and providing a vacuum condition, the vacuum bell comprising measuring tools configured to measure the outside diameter of the melt column;
a calibrating station positioned in the device adjacent to the vacuum bell;
a vacuum calibrating bath positioned in the device adjacent to the calibrating station; and
a vacuum seal configured to maintain a vacuum condition in the vacuum calibrating bath;
wherein the device is automatically-controlled for several desired dimensions of the outside diameter and thickness of the extruded pipe.

19. (new) A method of automatically controlling conversion of a pipe extruding device between several pipe dimensions during a continuous extrusion process without interruption of the production process, the pipe extruding device including a vacuum bell and a plurality of calibrating-support and calibrating-sealing equipment that fit an outside diameter of an extrude pipe resulting from the continuous extrusion process, the method comprising:

prescribing a setting within the vacuum suction bell;
automatically setting all of the other calibrating-support and calibrating-sealing equipment based on the prescribed setting.

20. (new) The method of claim 19, wherein the calibrating-support and calibrating-sealing equipment include a calibrating station, a vacuum calibrating bath, and a vacuum seal.

21. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the vacuum seal adjusts automatically to a diameter of the extruded pipe depending on the extruded pipe dimensions set in the calibrating station or in the vacuum calibrating bath.

22. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the pipe extruding device includes measuring instruments inside a vacuum tight chamber of the vacuum suction bell, the measuring instruments control the outside diameter of the extruded pipe and control a vacuum inside the vacuum tight chamber.